

August 16, 2019

Dear PES Parents or Guardians,

Regarding the STAR 360 Math and Reading Assessment....

Starting this school year we will be utilizing a new assessment tool for math and reading. The assessment is STAR 360, a product of Renaissance. This assessment will replace the Group Reading Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation and the Group Math Assessment and Diagnostic Evaluation that have been utilized for the past several years.

STAR 360 will be implemented in grades second through eighth grades. Teachers have been piloting the use of this assessment for the past two years as we have decided to adopt it in our district. The strengths of this assessment include that it is brief, taking about 20 - 25 minutes to administer, and it is computer-adaptive, in that the assessment adjusts to the students' skill levels. STAR 360 data will be used by teachers to help identify student instructional needs as well as to provide benchmark information to parents on student achievement and growth. It is aligned with the Pennsylvania Core Standards and will provide teachers and students important data as students progress through the academic year.

The following link to a parent guide will provide additional information regarding the assessment.

<https://www.renaissance.com/2016/09/09/parents-guide-star-assessments/>

The assessment windows will be in September, January and May. Your child's teachers will be sharing results with you at conferences. Please contact Mr. Hoffman, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, or myself if you have questions or concerns regarding this assessment.

Sincerely,

Clif Beaver
Principal